

VZCZCXRO3282
PP RUEHPOD
DE RUEHC #0592/01 1341739
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 131729Z MAY 08
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO RUEHAD/AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY 0928
RUEHAS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY 1088
RUEHAM/AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY 6550
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 4229
RUEHTA/AMEMBASSY ASTANA PRIORITY 9664
RUEHTH/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 2979
RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD PRIORITY 7936
RUEHKB/AMEMBASSY BAKU PRIORITY 6528
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0157
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 4208
RUEHSL/AMEMBASSY BRATISLAVA PRIORITY 7566
RUEHBM/AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY 8985
RUEHUP/AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST PRIORITY 3843
RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY 5919
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 1178
RUEHCH/AMEMBASSY CHISINAU PRIORITY 8988
RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 8557
RUEHDO/AMEMBASSY DOHA PRIORITY 9293
RUEHDL/AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY 9158
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 3728
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 3873
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY 3698
RUEHKV/AMEMBASSY KYIV PRIORITY 6291
RUEHLI/AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY 5714
RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA PRIORITY 5105
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 7262
RUEHMD/AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY 8650
RUEHMK/AMEMBASSY MANAMA PRIORITY 4580
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0692
RUEHMS/AMEMBASSY MUSCAT PRIORITY 0704
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 7696
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 5906
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0710
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 8839
RUEHPOD/AMEMBASSY PODGORICA PRIORITY 1058
RUEHPG/AMEMBASSY PRAGUE PRIORITY 8122
RUEHRB/AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY 4668
RUEHRK/AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY 8533
RUEHRA/AMEMBASSY RIGA PRIORITY 0035
RUEHRH/AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY 7265
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 6237
RUEHSN/AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR PRIORITY 0251
RUEHVJ/AMEMBASSY SARAJEVO PRIORITY 8770
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 7335
RUEHGP/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY 8388
RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE PRIORITY 5096
RUEHSF/AMEMBASSY SOFIA PRIORITY 1052
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 5147
RUEHSV/AMEMBASSY SUVA PRIORITY 6948
RUEHTL/AMEMBASSY TALLINN PRIORITY 5857
RUEHSI/AMEMBASSY TBILISI PRIORITY 7530
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 2020
RUEHTI/AMEMBASSY TIRANA PRIORITY 1283
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 4129
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY 9986
RUEHUM/AMEMBASSY ULAANBAATAR PRIORITY 5885
RUEHVL/AMEMBASSY VILNIUS PRIORITY 9825
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 0989
RUEHYE/AMEMBASSY YEREVAN PRIORITY 5485
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0678
RHMFISS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 4310
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS PRIORITY
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 1757
RHBVAKS/COMUSNAVCENT PRIORITY

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 09 STATE 050592

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [IZ](#) [MARR](#) [MOPS](#) [OTRA](#) [PREL](#)

SUBJECT: FRIENDS OF IRAQ CONFERENCE JUNE 17-19, 2008, UAE

¶1. This is an action request. See para 3.

¶2. SUMMARY. Multi-National Force-Iraq (MNF-I), Government of Iraq (GOI), and U.S. Embassy Baghdad will co-host the Friends of Iraq Conference (previously known as the Iraq Conference) at the Armed Forces Officer Club (AFOC), Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, June 17-19, 2008. Posts are requested to solicit participation by military and/or civilian representatives from Coalition partners and prospective partners. This conference provides an opportunity to discuss how to collectively build on the gains achieved in Iraq and to discuss current and emerging needs and coalition opportunities. The conference also provides a forum to underscore that the U.S. drawdown of surge forces does not communicate a reduced need for Coalition support or a reduced USG commitment to Iraq. Key conference invited speakers include Multinational Force-Iraq Commanding General (CG MNF-I) General David Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker. END SUMMARY.

¶3. ACTION REQUEST. Embassies are requested to convey the following invitation in para 4 and conference details in para 5 as soon as possible. Hotel accommodations at the AFOC are reserved only for those annotated in para 6A, all others are requested to make reservations at the nearby Shangri-La Hotel (www.shangri-la.com). Participants from each country are expected to be well versed on Iraq issues. Some invited countries have no current involvement in the coalition, but CG MNF-I requests the conference be as inclusive as possible and approach all potential capability contributors. Please note that the name of the conference was changed from "Iraq Conference" to "Friends of Iraq Conference" after the invitation was delivered to many participants through military channels. Web sites and other material now reflect the new name.

3A. For USUN: Extend an invitation to the UN Under Secretary for Political Affairs, Ambassador Lynn Pascoe.

3B. For USNATO: Extend an invitation to the NATO Assistant Secretary General for Operations, Mr. Martin Howard.

3C. For USEU: Extend an invitation to the EU General Secretariat to the Council, Robert Cooper, and an appropriate senior commission official.

3D. For Embassy Suva: Please extend the invitation to the Kingdom of Tonga only.

MNF-I CONFERENCE INVITATION

¶4. INVITATION. The signed original of the following invitation has been delivered to USCENTCOM Senior National Representatives (SNR) in Tampa, FL dated April 24, 2008. Bahrain, Oman, Iceland, and Montenegro do not have SNRs; the department will convey signed originals to Washington embassies.

BEGIN TEXT OF INVITATION.

The Government of Iraq; Chief of Mission, United States Embassy-Baghdad; and Commanding General Multi-National Force - Iraq, are pleased to invite you to their Iraq Conference in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from 17 to 19 June 2008.

Over the course of the last six months, Iraqi and Coalition forces have realized marked improvements in security that present opportunities to accelerate and focus rebuilding efforts throughout Iraq. Iraq's leaders are capitalizing on this momentum by tackling national issues and promulgating legislation that is improving governmental processes and reinvigorating the economy. These efforts will also give other nations innumerable opportunities to sustain rebuilding efforts and continue to improve their long-term relationship

with the Government and people of Iraq.

At the Iraq Conference, we will discuss how we can collectively build upon these gains and organize to accomplish the work that remains. Please come prepared to address what your country can contribute to this important endeavor.

Senior officials will attend from the United States Department of State, the Government of Iraq, and the United States Department of Defense. Therefore, we respectfully ask that at a minimum, the Vice or Deputy Chief of Defense, and a senior representative from the Foreign Ministry attend.

Please find important conference details enclosed. We look forward to seeing and spending time with your nation's representatives, and we are prepared to assist you in any way possible to make this a memorable and successful conference. If you require an interpreter or any other special accommodations please let us know so that we can make necessary arrangements.

Sincerely,
Moffak al-Rubaie
National Security Advisor
Government of Iraq

Ryan C. Crocker
Ambassador
US Embassy - Baghdad

David H. Petraeus
General, U.S. Army
Commanding General
Multi-National Force-Iraq

END TEXT OF INVITATION.

CONFERENCE DETAILS ATTACHMENT

15. To be delivered with the conference invitation.

BEGIN TEXT OF ENCLOSURE:

CONFERENCE DETAILS

RSVP: Due to the short notice of this important event please RSVP by May 22, 2008. This can be done via the conference website, by having your USCENTCOM Senior National Representative (SNR) register you, or by contacting the U.S. Embassy in country. Conference Website:
http://hqsweb03.centcom.smil.mil/Conferences/MNFI_conf/Views/confRegistration.aspx

ATTENDEES: Due to limited hotel and seating capacity, attendance for the conference is limited to the primary national representatives invited from each country. Exceptions will only be made for interpreters as the conference will be conducted in English only. All conference attendees must possess a SECRET security clearance from your nation.

TRANSPORTATION: Transportation between the airport, hotels and conference center will be provided based on participants' registration on the conference website. Please ensure your arrival time and location is available to your CENTCOM SNR to properly prepare for your reception.

HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS: The Iraq Conference Staff is happy to announce that the Armed Officers Club and Hotel (AFOC) will be the venue for the conference and both social events. However, due to the limited availability, it is necessary to make arrangements for accommodations at either the AFOC or nearby Shangri-La Hotel; conference rooms are held under the title "MNF-I Iraq Conference".

Armed Forces Officers Club
P.O. Box 6382
Abu Dhabi, UAE
Tel: (971-2) 441-5900
Fax: (971-2) 441-5666
www.afoc.mil.ae

Shangri-La Hotel
PO Box 128881, Abu Dhabi
United Arab Emirates
Tel: (971-2) 509-8888
Fax: (971-2) 558-5999
slad@shangri-la.com

UNIFORM / ATTIRE: Due to customs and courtesy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, the uniform of the day for all conference and social activities will be civilian business-casual, coat and open collar. Historically average temperatures in Abu Dhabi during the month of June range from a 100F/38C degree high to a 77F/25C degree low.

AGENDA: Conference agenda and read-ahead material will be available two weeks prior to the conference on the website. Additionally, all briefings given at the conference will be posted to the website after the conference.

END TEXT OF ENCLOSURE.

HOTEL RESERVATION GUIDANCE

16. Due to hotel limitations, the AFOC is reserved primarily for Ministry of Defense attendees.

6A. FOR HOSTED NATIONS MINISTRY OF DEFENSE ATTENDEES

MNF-I has secured 80 single rooms at the Armed Forces Officers Club and Hotel for Ministry of Defense participants from eligible nations at no cost to the invitee; however, all additional incidental charges associated with the stay will be the responsibility of the attendee. Please complete website registration to ensure confirmation of attendance and room accommodations.

ELIGIBLE NATIONS: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, and Ukraine.

6B. FOR CIVILIAN ATTENDEES FROM ABOVE ELIGIBLE NATIONS, AND ALL OTHER CONFERENCE ATTENDEES, BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN

Due to limited availability in the Armed Forces Officers Club and Hotel, it will be necessary to make reservations at the nearby Shangri-La Hotel and Resort as soon as possible by kindly providing your USCENTCOM SNR with credit card information before May 22, 2008. The CENTCOM Coalition Coordination Center (CCC) can assist with reserving and confirming your rooms. Please complete website registration to ensure confirmation of attendance and room accommodations. If you choose to book your accommodations directly, ask for blocked rooms under the title "MNF-I Iraq Conference".

17. CONFERENCE POINT OF CONTACTS:

7A. CENTCOM POC
Brian Kelley, CDR, USN
U.S. Central Command Coalition Coordination Center
Director's Action Team
(813) 827-1097 / DSN 651-1097
kelleybk@centcom.mil
kelleybk@centcom.smil.mil
unclass fax (813) 827-1122 / DSN 651-1122

class fax (813) 827-1094 / DSN 651-1094

7B. MNF-I POC
Jeffrey Kwok, Maj, USAF
MNF-I SPA Plans
DSN 318-239-8761
Jeffrey.kwok@iraq.centcom.mil
Jeffrey.kwok@s-iraq.centcom.smil.mil

7C. STATE DEPT POC
Bill Jensen, CAPT, USN
NEA/I-PM Military Advisor
(202) 647-0560
JensenWJ@state.sgov.gov
JensenWJ@state.gov

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